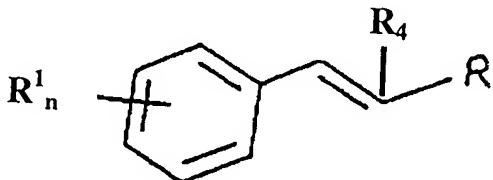


2. (Twice Amended) A method for providing a susceptible plant with sustained resistance to pathological microorganisms, said method comprising:
administering to said plant a nonphytotoxic composition comprising at least one aromatic compound having the formula



wherein R represents -CHO, -CH₂OH, -COOH, or -COOR₅; n is an integer from 0 to 3; each R¹ represents -OH, or an organic substituent containing from 1 to 10 carbon atoms and from 0 to 5 heteroatoms, wherein the total number of carbon and heteroatoms in all R¹ substituents of said compound is no more than 15; and R₄ represents -H or an organic constituent containing from 1 to 10 carbon atoms; and R₅ represent an organic substituent containing from 1 to 10 carbon atoms and from 0 to 5 heteroatoms; and wherein said composition is free of antioxidants other than said at least one aromatic compound.

15. (Twice Amended) The method according to Claim 7, wherein said composition comprises a surfactant.

26. (Amended) A method for providing a susceptible plant with sustained resistance to pathological microorganisms, said method comprising:

administering to said plant a nonphytotoxic composition comprising one or more aromatic aldehydes selected from the group consisting of cinnamic aldehyde, alpha-hexyl cinnamic aldehyde, α -amyl cinnamic aldehyde, and coniferyl aldehyde, wherein said composition is free of antioxidants other than said one or more aldehyde.

35. (New) The method according to Claim 6, wherein said aromatic compound is selected from the group consisting of alpha-hexyl cinnamic aldehyde, α -amyl cinnamic aldehyde, and coniferyl aldehyde.

36. (New) The method according to claim 7, wherein said pathological microorganisms are selected from the group consisting of fungi.

37. (New) The method according to Claim 26, wherein said aromatic aldehyde is selected from the group consisting of alpha-hexyl cinnamic aldehyde, α -amyl cinnamic aldehyde, and coniferyl aldehyde.

38. (New) The method according to Claim 26, wherein said pathological organisms are selected from the group consisting of soil borne pathogens.

39. (New) The method according to Claim 26, wherein said pathological organisms are selected from the group consisting of fungi.